

**Harpswell Conservation Commission  
Minutes for Meeting of May 18, 2010  
Town Hall, Harpswell, Maine**

**1. Members Present:** Mary Ann Nahf (chair), Deirdre Strachan, Donald Jones, Burr Taylor, Anne Perry, Ann Nemrow Associate member: Sue Vachon Absent: Tony Barrett

**Town Planner:** Carol Tukey  
Meeting called to order by M. Nahf at 3:10 pm.

**2. Minutes** of May 4 approved. Moved by: A Perry Seconded by: A Nemrow Unanimous.

**3. Member Announcements**

**Wooley Adelgid:** Allison Kanotti of the Maine Department of Conservation will speak at the Selectmen's meeting on June 3. HTV14 will assemble program materials for a later broadcast. Don volunteered to attend the meeting.

**Bath Conservation Commission Formation:** Carol reported that the Bath City Planner has asked for a person to attend a meeting on Jun 3 at 6 pm of a group in Bath who want to start a Conservation Commission. They want to hear about the experiences of Harpswell and Topsham Conservation Commissions. Deirdre volunteered to attend.

**4. Old Business**

**Election of Secretary:** Anne Perry was elected to be the secretary for the 2010-2011 year. She will send copies of our minutes to Linda with a copy to Mary Ann. Excepting the chair, we will all take turns taking minutes. Anne will prepare a list of scribes with dates.

Moved by: Don Seconded by: Mary Ann Unanimous

**Mission Statement and Action Plan:** We reviewed the HCC Mission Statement. Burr suggested that we add an Action Plan for 2010-11 to the document. We reviewed the strategies in the Open Space Plan and decided that the following were priorities for this year: 1) Conservation Education 2) Town Lands/Cliff Trail Project 3) Adding an Open Space Definition to Ordinances and 4) Funding for Conservation. We agreed that we need to put together a detailed work plan to implement the Action Plan.

Moved by: ? Seconded by: ? Unanimous

**Ideas for Action Plan**

- 1. Conservation Education:** Some ideas which were suggested for the Save our Bay program included a TV program, a question and answer brochure, updated educational materials, a display at the Harpswell Festival on July 24, displays at Crystal Springs Farm on Saturdays, and a focus on getting SOB information to summer people. Other ideas included information on tax incentives for open space,

- 2. Town Lands/Cliff Trail Project:** We need to find funding for an ecological survey for the Town Lands/Cliff Trail Project. Various surveys have been done on some of the properties included in the project. . Deirdre will find out what has been done to date from the Jason Marshall in the Codes Office. She will contact Rob Bryan to get assistance in better defining what needs to be done and how to do it.
- 3. Adding an Open Space Definition to Ordinances:** Carol suggested we write a memo to the Selectmen to request that the open space definition in the Open Space Plan be included in Harpswell Ordinances. This task should be relatively easy as the work is mostly done. Mary Ann will prepare the memo.
- 4. Funding for Conservation:** We need to develop a budget for our operating needs for next year, especially for education materials. We need to find money for the ecological survey of the Town Lands/Cliff Trail. We should develop a detailed list of criteria for using town money to purchase a high priority piece of land or an easement in the Focus Areas. We may explore bonding if we can identify an appropriate piece of land or an easement to purchase.

**Save Our Bay Materials for Non Resident Taxpayer's Meeting:** The Selectmen will meet in July with non resident taxpayers. HCC has approval to set up a display and hand out SOB materials at this meeting. We will give out the Yardscaping bookmark if we haven't completed our own. Burr will request 500 from Gary Fish State Yardscaping Director

**HCC Website:** We need to tweak the HCC website to make it more user friendly. Mary Ann will add a link to our Natural Gardening & Lawn Care section on the Helpful Links sidebar on the town home page and send to Terry. We need to compile a list of landscape contractors who practice green methods and add to the natural gardening section. We also need to continue to add links to other useful websites. Burr will work on this.

## **5. New Business**

**Plan for Selectmen's Workshop** (on 5/20 at 4:30 pm):

All HCC members may attend. We reviewed topics to discuss with the Selectmen and decided to focus on what assistance HCC can be to seek funding for conservation. Deirdre will update and circulate a draft memo to the Selectmen to share with them on May 20.

Adjourned at 5:10?

SummerMeetings: 6/1, 6/15, 7/20, 8/3, 8/17

Revised Scribes: 6/1-Ann Nemrow, 6/15-Anne Perry; 7/20- Don Jones; 8/3-Burr Taylor; 8/17-Tony Barrett